

Permit. A specific permit to import a regulated article issued in accordance with § 319.40-4, or a general permit promulgated in § 319.40-3.

Plant pest. Any living stage of any insects, mites, nematodes, slugs, snails, protozoa, or other invertebrate animals, bacteria, fungi, other parasitic plants or reproductive parts of parasitic plants, noxious weeds, viruses, or any organism similar to or allied with any of the foregoing, or any infectious substances, which can injure or cause disease or damage in any plants, parts of plants, or any products of plants.

Port of first arrival. The area (such as a seaport, airport, or land border station) where a person or a means of conveyance first arrives in the United States, and where inspection of regulated articles is carried out by inspectors.

Primary processing. Any of the following processes: cleaning (removal of soil, limbs, and foliage), debarking, rough sawing (bucking or squaring), rough shaping, spraying with fungicide or insecticide sprays, and fumigation.

Regulated article. The following articles, if they are unprocessed or have received only primary processing: logs; lumber; any whole tree; any cut tree or any portion of a tree, not solely consisting of leaves, flowers, fruits, buds, or seeds; bark; cork; laths; hog fuel; sawdust; painted raw wood products; excelsior (wood wool); wood chips; wood mulch; wood shavings; pickets; stakes; shingles; solid wood packing materials; humus; compost; and litter.

Sealed container; sealable container. A completely enclosed container designed for the storage or transportation of cargo, and constructed of metal or fiberglass, or other rigid material, providing an enclosure which prevents the entrance or exit of plant pests and is accessed through doors that can be closed and secured with a lock or seal. Sealed (sealable) containers are distinct and separable from the means of conveyance carrying them.

Solid wood packing material. Wood packing materials other than loose wood packing materials, used or for use with cargo to prevent damage, including, but not limited to, dunnage, crating, pallets, packing blocks, drums, cases, and skids.

Specific permit. A written document issued by APHIS to the applicant in accordance with § 319.40-4 that authorizes importation of articles in accordance with this subpart and specifies or refers to the regulations applicable to the particular importation.

Treatment Manual. The Plant Protection and Quarantine Treatment Manual, which is incorporated by reference at § 300.1 of this chapter in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

Tropical hardwoods. Hardwood timber species which grow only in tropical climates.

United States. All of the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and all other territories and possessions of the United States.

Wood chips. Wood fragments broken or shredded from any wood.

Wood mulch. Bark chips, wood chips, wood shavings, or sawdust intended for use as a protective or decorative ground cover.

[60 FR 27674, May 25, 1995, as amended at 63 FR 50110, Sept. 18, 1998; 63 FR 69542, Dec. 17, 1998]

§ 319.40-2 General prohibitions and restrictions; relation to other regulations.

(a) *Permit required.* Except for regulated articles exempted from this requirement by paragraph (c) of this section or § 319.40-3, no regulated article may be imported unless a specific permit has been issued for importation of the regulated article in accordance with § 319.40-4, and unless the regulated article meets all other applicable requirements of this subpart and any requirements specified by APHIS in the specific permit.

(b) *Importer document; documentation of type, quantity, and origin of regulated articles.* Except for regulated articles exempted from this requirement by paragraph (c) of this section or § 319.40-3, no regulated article may be imported unless it is accompanied by an importer document stating the following information. A certificate that contains this information may be used in lieu of an importer document at the option of the importer:

(1) The genus and species of the tree from which the regulated article was derived;

(2) The country, and locality if known, where the tree from which the regulated article was derived was harvested;

(3) The quantity of the regulated article to be imported;

(4) The use for which the regulated article is imported; and

(5) Any treatments or handling of the regulated article required by this subpart that were performed prior to arrival at the port of first arrival.

(c) *Regulation of articles imported for propagation or human consumption.* The requirements of this subpart do not apply to regulated articles that are allowed importation in accordance with § 319.19, "Subpart—Citrus Canker and Other Citrus Diseases", or §§ 319.37 through 319.37-14, "Subpart—Nursery Stock, Plants, Roots, Bulbs, Seeds, and Other Plant Products"; or to regulated articles imported for human consumption that are allowed importation in accordance with §§ 319.56 through 319.56-8, "Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables."

(d) *Regulated articles imported for experimental, scientific or educational purposes.* Any regulated article may be imported without further restriction under this subpart if:

(1) Imported by the United States Department of Agriculture for experimental, scientific, or educational purposes;

(2) Imported pursuant to a Departmental permit issued by APHIS for the regulated article prior to its importation and kept on file at the port of first arrival; and

(3) Imported under conditions specified on the Departmental permit and found by the Administrator to be adequate to prevent the introduction into the United States of plant pests.

(e) *Designation of additional regulated articles.* An inspector may designate any article as a regulated article by giving written notice of the designation to the owner or person in possession or control of the article. APHIS will implement rulemaking to add articles designated as regulated articles to the definition of regulated article in § 319.40-1 if importation of the article

appears to present a recurring significant risk of introducing plant pests. Inspectors may designate an article as a regulated article after determining that:

(1) The article was imported in the same container or hold as a regulated article;

(2) Other articles of the same type imported from the same country have been found to carry plant pests; or

(3) The article appears to be contaminated with regulated articles or soil.

[60 FR 27674, May 25, 1995, as amended at 63 FR 13485, Mar. 20, 1998]

§ 319.40-3 General permits; articles that may be imported without a specific permit; articles that may be imported without either a specific permit or an importer document.

(a) *Canada and Mexico.* APHIS hereby issues a general permit to import articles authorized by this paragraph. Regulated articles from Canada and from states in Mexico adjacent to the United States border, other than regulated articles of the subfamilies Aurantioideae, Rutoideae, and Toddalioidae of the botanical family Rutaceae, may be imported without restriction under this subpart, except that they must be accompanied by an importer document stating that the regulated articles are derived from trees harvested in, and have never been moved outside, Canada or states in Mexico adjacent to the United States border, and except that they are subject to the inspection and other requirements in § 319.40-9.

(b) *Solid wood packing materials—(1) Free of bark; used with non-regulated articles.* APHIS hereby issues a general permit to import regulated articles authorized by this paragraph, except that solid wood packing material from the People's Republic of China including Hong Kong must be imported in accordance with § 319.40-5(g), (h), and (i). Solid wood packing materials that are completely free of bark and are in actual use at the time of importation as packing materials for articles which are not regulated articles may be imported without restriction under this subpart, except that:

(i) The solid wood packing materials are subject to the inspection and other requirements in § 319.40-9; and